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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/655,689

09/05/2003

Yian-Liang Kuo

TS03-337

6492

7590

12/01/2004

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DILINH P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/655,689

Applicant(s)

KUO ET AL.

Examiner

DiLinh Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 38-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 38-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/10/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 49, 51-52 and 53-54 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Line 2, claim 49, replace "25 and 85%" with -- 25 to 85%--.

Line 2, claim 51, replace "1.0 and 5.0 mm" with --1.0 to 5.0 mm -- and replace "the slots 28 comprising" with --the slots comprising--.

Line 3, claim 52, replace "0.7 and 1.5 mm" with --0.7 to 1.5 mm--.

Line 1, claims 53-54, replace "slots 28 are arranged in" with --slots are arranged in--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 38 and 49-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dordi (U.S. Pat. 5,835,355).

Dordi discloses an ball grid array package, comprising:

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a semiconductor chip/die 12 affixed to a ball grid substrate 20; the ball grid substrate having a series of balls 26; and

a heat spreader 34 mounted to the semiconductor chip/die and the ball grid substrate opposite the series of balls; the heat spreader having a pattern of slots 40 therein (fig. 5, column 7, lines 18-35).

- Regarding claim 49, Dordi discloses that the slots penetrate the heat spreader from about 25 to 85% (fig. 4).
- Regarding claim 50, Dordi discloses that the slots penetrate the heat spreader from about 50 to 75% (fig. 4).
- Regarding claim 51, Dordi discloses that the pattern of slots include rows spaced apart from about 1.0 to 5.0 mm (1.27mm or 5.08 mm, column 6, lines 10-15); the slots comprising each row are spaced apart from each other from about 0.5 to 2.5 mm (0.51mm or 1.27mm, fig. 4, column 6, lines 10-15).
- Regarding claim 52, Dordi discloses that the pattern of slots includes rows spaced apart from about 1.5 to 2.5 mm (fig. 4, column 6, lines 10-15); the slots comprising each row are spaced apart from each other from about 0.7 to 1.5 mm (fig. 4, column 6, lines 10-15).
- Regarding claim 53, Dordi discloses that the pattern of slots 40 are arranged in: perpendicular/perpendicular rows; a square pattern (fig. 4).
- Regarding claim 54, Dordi discloses that the pattern of slots 40 are arranged in parallel/perpendicular rows (fig. 4).

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- Regarding claims 55-56, Dordi discloses that the ball grid array package is a super ball grid array package (fig. 5).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 39-40 and 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dordi (U.S. Pat. 5,835,355) in view of Ho et al. (U.S. Pat. 2002/0079570).

- Regarding claims 39-40, Dordi substantially discloses all the limitations as claimed above except for the semiconductor chip is a silicon semiconductor chip.

However, Ho et al. disclose a silicon semiconductor chip (paragraph 0006, line 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the chip of Dordi by a silicon semiconductor chip, as taught by Ho et al., such the silicon semiconductor chip is well known in the art for improving the heat dissipating characteristics (paragraph 0006).

- Regarding claims 45-46, Ho et al. disclose that the silicon semiconductor chip has a CTE approximately 3 ppm/°C and the heat spreader has a CTE of 18 ppm/°C (paragraph 0006).

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5. Claims 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dordi (U.S. Pat. 5,835,355) in view of Kubo et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,199,273).

- Regarding claims 41-43, Dordi substantially discloses all the limitations as claimed above. Dordi also discloses that the heat spreader 34 is comprised of copper, aluminum or nickel plated on copper (column 6, lines 22-25).

Dordi fails to disclose the balls are comprised of 63Sn37Pb, 96.5Sn3.5Ag, 5.5Sn3.8Ag0.7Cu or 96.2Sn2.5Ag0.8Cu0.5Sb.

However, Kubo et al. discloses that a solder ball is comprised of 63Sn37Pb (column 13, lines 36-37). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Dordi by having the balls are comprised of 63Sn37Pb, as taught by Kubo et al, in order to improve the electric contact characteristic for the semiconductor package (column 13, lines 36-40).

- Regarding claim 44, Kubo et al. disclose that the balls are comprised of 96.5Sn3.5Ag (column 14, lines 28-30).

6. Claims 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dordi (U.S. Pat. 5,835,355) in view of Ho et al. (U.S. Pat. 2002/0079570) and further in view of Jayaraman et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,724,091).

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As discussed in details above the combination of Dordi and Ho et al. substantially disclose all the limitations as claimed above except for the chip is a germanium semiconductor chip and has a CTE of from about 5.5 to 6.5 or about 6.1.

However, Jayaraman et al. disclose that the semiconductor chip is a germanium semiconductor chip and has a CTE of about 6 ppm/° (column 1, lines 39-41).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute the chip of the above combination by a germanium semiconductor chip, as taught by Jayaraman et al., in order to use the semiconductor package in a particular application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DiLinh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1712. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 6:00PM (M-F)..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael Fahmy can be reached on (571) 272-1705. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DLN



HOAI PHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER